BOMBAY COUREIR EXTRAORDINARY.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1842.

We have much pleasure in placing the following gratifying intelligence, before our Readers—that "the Troops both European and Native will continue to support well the character of British Soldiers," we do not entertain the shadow of a doubt.

NOTIFICATION.

SECRET DEPARTMENT.

Kurnaul, 4th September 1842.

The Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India is pleased to publish for general information the following despatch and its enclosures from Major General Pollock, C. B., dated the 25th ultimo.

By order of the Right Hon'ble the Governor of India.

T. H. MADDOCK,
Secretary to the Govt. of India,
with the Governor General.

(COPY.)

No. 217 of 1842.

FROM MAJOR GENERAL POLLOCK, C. B.
Commanding in Afghanistan.

To, T. H. MADDOCK, Esq.
Secretary to Govt. Political Dept.

At Mama Khail, 25th August 1842.

Sir,—I have the honor to forward for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General, copy of a despatch which I have this day forwarded to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, detailing the operations carried into execution yesterday to discharge the enemy from positions in this and the adjoining Village of Kookhi Khail.

I have &c.
(Signed) G. POLLOCK, Major-Genl.
Commanding in Affghanistan.

Mama Khail, 25th August 1842.

Copy of a letter from Major-General POLLOCK,
Commanding in Affghanistan.

To, Major-General LUMLEY,
Adjt. Genl. of the Army.
Head-Quarters Simla.

Camp Mammoo Khail, 25th August 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, that I reached Gundamuk on the morning of the 23rd instant, with the Troops as per margin.

1 Squadron 15th Light cavalry.
Head Qrs. and one Squadron 10th light cavalry.
No 6 Light Field Battery.
5th Compy. Sappers & Miners.
Her Majesty's 9th Foot.
26th Native Infantry.
60th Do. do.

On approaching the ground a few horsemen appeared but retired as we advanced. I soon learnt that the enemy under the Chiefs Hadji Ali and Khyroolah Khan occupied the village and Fort of Mammoo Khail, about two miles from Gundamuk, and I determined upon attacking them the following morning.

I ordered up a Squadron of the 3rd Dragoons and captain Broadfoot's Corps of Sappers from General Sale's Camp, and they joined before daylight the following morning.

At 4 A. M. yesterday morning I moved towards the enemy with the Troops as per margin, on clearing the broken ground in front, I divided the Infantry into two columns with a Wing of Her Majesty's 9th Ft. at the head of each and Skirmishers in front. I directed captain Broadfoot with his Corps to go to the right. The cavalry also advanced on the right to cut off the retreat of the enemy.

1 Squadron 5th light cavalry.
1 Do. 10th Ditto.
No 6 Light Field Battery.
5th Compy. Sappers & Miners.
Her Majesty's 9th Foot.
26th Native Infantry.
60th Ditto do.
Broadfoot's Sappers.

Captain Abbott's Battery accompanied the columns and as we advanced occasionally opened on the enemy who continued in position so long, we hoped they would oppose us with their whole force, but they retired on our approach and we entered the Village.

The fields in front of the Village were purposely flooded to prevent our advance. The left column then went towards the Fort of Mammoo Khail, and the right column proceeded to Koorkee Khail; the ground was impracticable for Cavalry nearly the whole distance but on one or two occasions an opportunity did offer and the enemy suffered accordingly. Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor with some Companies of the 9th Foot and 26th Native Infantry occupied part of the heights in front of the Village of Koorkee Khail while Captain Broadfoot and some of the 26th Native Infantry cleared the Hills to the left of Lieut.-Colonel Taylor's position. As Koorkee Khail is about two miles from Mammoo Khail, and as a position there might have been attended with risk unless very strongly supported, I directed Major-General McCaskill to retire on Mammoo Khail. As I considered it of importance to hold Mammoo Khail which was the enemy's position I wrote for the whole Camp to be brought here, and it arrived in safety yesterday afternoon.

I left the Camp standing and selected Major Davis of H. M.'s 9th Foot to command the party as per margin for its protection, the duty was one of considerable importance as it was by no means improbable that the enemy would take advantage of our advance to send a party to the Camp. The Squadron of Dragoons having arrived just as I was starting their horses would not have been equal to a day's hard work which induced me to leave them in Camp. The overthrow of this party of the Enemy must, I conclude, have been very unxpected as the whole of their Camp Equipage with its Carriage, Cattle, was captured by Capt. Broadfoot's Corps and the 3rd Irregular Cavalry.

3 Companies 26th N. Infy.
3 Companies 60th N. Infy.
and
50 Sowars of the 3d Irregular Cavalry.

I have much gratification in reporting that the Troops both European and Native of each branch and department well supported the character of British Soldiers.

Where all are equally zealous in the cause and devoted to their duty, my thanks are equally due to all, but I may be permitted to mention the names of the Corps, and department employed, Major General McCaskill, K. H. Commanding the right Column, Brigadier Tulloch, Commanding the left Column, Captain Abbott, Commanding Light Field Battery, Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, K. H. Commanding Her Majesty's 9th Foot, Major Huish, Commanding 26th Native Infantry, Captain Napleton, Commanding 60th Native Infantry, Major Blair, Commanding 10th Light Cavalry, Captain Oldfield, Commanding Squadron of the 5th Light Cavalry, Captain Tait, Commanding 3rd Irregular Cavalry, Captain Abbott, Field Engineer, Lieutenant Becher, Commanding Sappers and Miners and Superintendent, Surgeon Steven and Captain Nugent, Officiating Sub-Assistant Commissary General. The Officers of the Staff who conveyed my orders to the different Columns, and otherwise aided in the movements of the day were Captain Havelock, Deputy Assistant Adjutant General, Captain Smith, Major of Brigade, Captain Ponsonby, Assistant Adjutan. General, Captain MacAdam, Deputy Judge Advocate General, Captain Lane, Commissary of Ordnance, Lieutenant Sir Richmond Shakespeare, Military Secretary, Captain Codrington, Assistant Quarter Master General, Lieutenant Mayne, Officiating Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, who was most active throughout the day, Lieutenant Tytler, Baggage Master, Lieutenant Pollock, A D. C. and Captain Macgregor, A. D. C. To the last mentioned Officer, I am not only indebted for services in the field but for valuable information and for constant exertions to obtain Supplies for the force which his local knowledge and personal acquaintance with the Mullicks enables him to do.

I have this morning heard from several quarters that the two Chiefs Hadjee Ali and Khyroolah Khan have gone to Cabool, attended by about sixty men. If I had removed to Camp at Gundamuck yesterday, there can be little doubt that the Enemy would have re-occupied this place, and he would have announced to the Cabool Authorities he had beaten us back. Kooche Khail has been destroyed by fire, the fort and village of Mummoo Khail have also been destroyed by fire and before I quit this place, the trees to which much value and importance are attached will be cut down.

I have the honor to enclose a Return of Casualties. I regret I shall be deprived of the services of Major Huish, 26th Native Infantry and Captain Edmond, Her Majesty's 9th Foot, for some time though I hope not long: Lieutenant Robertson, of the 37th Regiment of Native Infantry, doing duty with the 26th Native Infantry, is slightly wounded, and will, I trust, soon return to his duty.

I have the pleasure to enclose reports from Major General McCaskill, K. H. and Captain Broadfoot.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. POLLOCK, Maj-Genl.
Comdg. in Affghanistan.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) R. C. SHAKESPEAR,
Mily. Secretary.

FROM MAJOR GENERAL JOHN MCCASKILL, K. H.
Commanding Infantry Division.

TO CAPTAIN PONSONBY,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Dated Camp, Mummoo Khail, 25th August 1842.

SIR,—I beg to detail to you for the information of Major General Pollock, C. B., the operations of the right Column in the affair of yesterday, after it had become separated from that of the left on the complete success of the combined attack on the evening's position in advance of Mummoo Khail.

You are aware that this force consisted of four Companies of Her Majesty's 9th Foot and six of the 26th Regiment Native Infantry, under the immediate Command of Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, K. H. of the former Corps. The enemy had fled before our Troops, and abandoned the village of Kooche Khail, but reinforced strongly by the fugitives driven back by Brigadier Tulloch's Column, he assumed a menacing attitude and occupied in force a range of heights and detached summits in the Soofaid Koh. The most salient of these was a spur of the mountain within long musket range of the buildings of Kooche Khail. From this and from other eminences of the most precipitous character, the Ooloos were dislodged with the utmost spirit and gallantry by the details under Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, aided in the most effective manner by a party of Captain Broadfoot's Corps of Sappers and Miners. The Enemy were re-inforced from time to time and made many bold attacks, and kept up a sharp fire of Jezails from the loftiest peaks of the mountain, but our troops though so much pressed as to be compelled to recede from ground which they had gained in one direction, maintained an advanced position among the hills until withdrawn by order of Major General Pollock, first into the plateau in front of the village of Koorchlee Khail which they burnt down and then back upon the present side encampment. In retiring over the plain between the two principal villages the movement was covered by a squadron of the 5th and another of the 10th Cavalry, but the attempts of the Ooloos to annoy were timid and feeble in the extreme and our troops did not sustain a single casualty from their efforts. Lieut. Colonel Taylor speaks in high terms of the support which he received from Major Huish Commanding 26th Regiment N. Infantry who was wounded and afterwards from Captain Handscomb of the same corps, and from Captain Ogle Commanding H. M. 9th Foot, and I beg to be permitted to bear my testimony to the merits of the Lieut.-Colonel's own exertions on this occasion as well as to express my sense of the gallantry of all the troops engaged and to acknowledge the able assistance which I received from Captain Havelock, H. M. 13th Light Infantry, Deputy Assistant Adjt. General, Lieut. Mayne 37th Regt. N. I. offig. Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, and Lieutenant Bethune H. M. 9th Foot my A. D. C. The intrepidity also with which Captain Broadfoot's Sappers and Miners aided in the attack on one of the advanced heights deserves my marked commendation.

I have &c.
(Signed) JOHN McCASKILL,
Major General Commanding Infantry Division.

True Copy.
(Signed) G. PONSONBY, Captain,
Assistant Adjutant General.

True Copy.
(Signed) R. C. SHAKESPEAR,
Military Secretary.

From Captain J. BROADFOOT—Sappers and Miners,
Commanding Right Column.

To Captain G. PONSONBY,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Dated Camp Mamma Kheil.
25th August, 1842.

Sir.—Agreeably to orders, I have the honor to report the proceedings of the Column entrusted to me by the Major General Commanding in the action of yesterday.

I moved as directed with the Sappers (about 220 men) and the 3rd Irregular Cavalry (250) across the Ravine on the right of the force. We found the enemy strongly posted in an orchard with some enclosures and the usual field works of loose stones in their front were also occupied. This position flanked the approach of the main body.

Having formed an attacking party in front, I sent the rest of the Sappers in Column under Lieut. Orr to turn the enemy's left flank and Captain Tait's horse still more to the right, and in advance to cut off their retreat—while we waited in this order, the advance of the force, the enemy reinforced the Orchard and moved out to attack us. I was therefore obliged to advance before the force arrived, the enemy's positions were quickly carried in succession. One party was driven towards the 3rd Irregular Cavalry who pursued and the remainder fled to the village of Manna Kheil in which the main body of the enemy were at this moment driven by the fire of our Artillery, they opened a fire upon us ill directed but so heavy that we were obliged to attack the village, they fled when we reached it and the Sappers pursued to the fort, but were so exhausted by the march from Futteabad and the previous operations that the enemy was able to enter and barricade the gate—their fire was kept down by our party of the Sappers while the rest climbed on each others shoulders over a half repaired bastion baout 8 feet high and covered with thorns, the enemy fled over the walls on the other side leaving the rear gate barricaded. This and descending from the walls lost so much time that pursuit was nearly hopeless as far as our non exhausted men were concerned, we pressed on with the least fatigue however and keeping to the hills forced the enemy into ground, our Cavalry were approaching and we had the satisfaction of seeing the Cavalry overtake and attack them.

Parties were directed to destroy the Fort abandoned on the Cavalry approaching—while with a few men I pushed on to the last village near the hills, there we surprised the enemy whose head quarters were there, driving them out of the village and adjoining Camp, and obtaining their tents, cattle and ammunition and a good quantity of provisions. The enemy (who were evidently the Jezailchees from Cabool) fled to the hills the fire of which swept the village.

I was now directed to take a party of H. M. 9th Foot, the Sappers being now worn out, except about six men, and attack the hills, the first and second heights were carried at the point of the bayonet and flanking parties having turned the shoulders of the high range, we were advancing up it when the main force arrived and our further progress was stayed. My seperate command now ceased and I was soon after ordered with Sappers to Head Quarters.

The conduct of the Troops, Officers and men European and Natives, was admirable and it is due to the 26th N. I. to mention that in storming the second height with a party of H. M's. 9th Foot, a party of the former corps joined us and behaved with the same spirit as the rest.

I have &c.
(Signed) G. BROADFOOT, Captain,
Commanding Right Column.

True Copy.
(Signed) R. C. SHAKESPEAR,
Military Secretary.

Return of Killed, Wounded and Missing of Troops under the personal Command of Major General Pollock, C. B. Commanding in Affghanistan, on 24th August 1842.

KILLED.

3rd Irregular Cavalry,	1 Native Trooper.
H. M. 9th Foot,	2 Privates.
26th Regt. N. I.,	1 Sepoy.
Sappers and Miners,	2 Sepoys.
Camp Follower,	1 ditto.

Total Killed.. 7.

Horses Killed and Wounded.

3rd Iregular Cavalry 3 killed.
Do.....Do.... 5 wounded.

Total.. 8.

WOUNDED.

3rd Irregular Cavalry, 1 European Officer.
H. M. 9th Foot,..... 1 European Officer. 1 Serjeant, and 7 Privates.
26th Regt. N. I.,..... 2 European Officers.
Sappers and Miners,.. 1 Serjeant.
Native Commissioned, Non-commissioned, Rank and File, and Camp followers wounded.
Sappers and Miners, 1 Officer, 1 Drummer, and 4 Sepoys.
Detachment 5th Cavalry, 1 Trooper.
3rd Irregular Cavalry, 1 Trooper.
26th Regt. N. I., 4 Havildars, 4 Naicks, and 17 Sepoys.
60th Regt. N. I., 1 Sepoy.
Head Quarters and 1 Squadron 10th Cavalry, 1 Camp follower.
No. 6 Light Field Battalion, 1 Camp follower.

MISSING.

Detachment : Cavalry, 1 Horse.

(True Copy)
T. H. MADDOCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,
with the Governor General.

Printed at the Courier Press, by Sorabjee Dorabjee.